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14. GREEN MUNIA (*ESTRILDA FORMOSA*) AT DELHI, AND OTHER INTERESTING RECORDS FOR 1978

During 1978 we recorded two species which, according to Ganguli (1975), have not been recorded previously within the Union Territory of Delhi, the Plaintive Cuckoo and the Green Munia, the latter record falling well outside the normal range of the species. In addition we obtained evidence of breeding for two species formerly of doubtful status within the area, the Red and Spotted Munias. All observations were made in the Government Nursery, Sunder Nagar, just beside Delhi Zoo.

Plaintive Cuckoo *Cacomantis merulinus*. An immature of this species was seen on 20 August 1978 perched in the crown of a mango tree, into which it made periodic sallies to snatch insects. It was identified from the similar Bay-banded Cuckoo *C. sonneratii* by the presence of a rufous suffusion on the face and throat, and by the fact that the legs were orange and the bill brown, becoming yellowish at the base of the lower mandible.

Green Munia *Estrilda formosa*. A male was seen feeding in tall grass along with Red Munias on 11 October 1978. The bird was in very fresh plumage and we were able to observe it at ranges down to 3 m. It took no notice of us, but appeared unsettled, flying round more than the other munias present,

and after half an hour flew off and did not re-appear. The bird was also seen by Narender Sharma.

According to Ali and Ripley (1974) the species' main range is in central India, but there are two isolated records from the northern part of the sub-continent, at Lucknow and Lahore, and it is therefore possible that a scattered population does exist north of the Vindhya.

Red Munia *Estrilda amandava*. Birds were seen collecting and transporting nest material on 17 September and 11 October 1978 and pairs were seen with fledglings from 31 October onwards. Spotted Munia *Lonchura punctulata*. One was seen repeatedly carrying strips of green grass blades to a nest in the crown of a palm tree, about 6 m up. The pieces were frequently several times the length of the bird and could be carried only with difficulty. Juveniles were noted in November, but the nest seen being built did not fledge any young.

One other record for 1978 which is worth mentioning is that of a male Dark Grey Bushchat *Saxicola ferrea* seen by AJG on 29 October. The two records mentioned by Ganguli from Delhi were apparently not certain.

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A. J. GASTON
J. MACKRELL

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Oxford University Press, Bombay.

15. A CATALOGUE OF THE BIRDS IN THE COLLECTION OF THE
BOMBAY NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY
PARTS 1-17—NON-PASSERIFORMES
ERRATA

JBNHS Vol. p.	Serial page No.	I. H.* No.	
65(1):189	(8)	23	"December" is month of acquisition, and not collection.
65(1):191	(10)	33	For " <i>Ardea imperialis</i> " read " <i>Ardea insignis</i> Hume".
65(2):423	(24)	97	For "25356" read "15356".
65(2):424	(25)	101	Specimen 15384 marked "Gadwall/Mallard hybrid" has been re-identified as a teal/Baikal teal hybrid, Bull. BOC 1969:100.
65(2):429	(30)	121	The specimen marked "Gangpur, Bihar" was obtained by the ruler of that State on Ib River, Sambalpur, Orissa.
65(3):700	(36)	138	"Bhagat State (in Simla Hills), N.W.P." not N.W.F.P."
65(3):706	(42)	157	Khojdar is not in Persia but in Baluchistan 27.48N., 65.36E (Dr. R. D. Etchecopar, <i>in epist.</i>).
65(3):713	(49)	185	In line 8 for " <i>bengalensis</i> " read " <i>indicus</i> ".
65(3):718	(54)	203	For "Shaiba, Arabia" read "Shaiba, Iraq".
66(2):264	(73)	264	For "Manipur Bush Quail" read "Assam Bush Quail".
66(2):267	(76)	278	For "Bharatpur, Rajasthan" read "Karauli, District Sawai Madhopur, Rajasthan". (Sent by Maharaja of Bharatpur!).
66(2):270	(79)	286	For " <i>Tragopan satyr</i> " read " <i>Tragopan satyra</i> ".
66(2):283	(92)	314	Insert name "Yellowlegged Button Quail".

*Originally based on Ripley's Synopsis.